

PATENT

Attorney Docket: 1273 CIPCONFWCCON3
(203-589CIPCONFWCCONIII)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: David Nicholas, et al.

EXAMINER: Sarah K Webb

SERIAL NO.: 10/037,977

ART UNIT: 3731

FILED: November 9, 2001

DATED: March 4, 2005

FOR: ARTICULATING ENDOSCOPIC SURGICAL APPARATUS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL FORM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1)		(Col. 2)		(Col. 3)	SMALL ENTITY		OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		PRESENT EXTRA	ADDIT. RATE FEE	OR	ADDIT. RATE FEE
TOTAL	10	MINUS	20	=	0	X 25 \$		X 50 \$ 0.00
INDEP.	1	MINUS	3	=	0	X 100 \$		X 200 \$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM						X 180 \$		X 360 \$ 0.00
						TOTAL		OR TOTAL \$ 0.00
						ADDIT. FEE		\$ 0.00

No additional fee is required.

* If the entry in Co. 1 is less than entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid for" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".

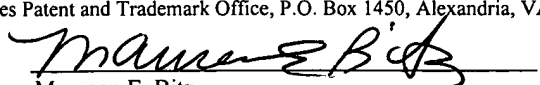
*** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".

The Highest No. Previously Paid For" (Total or indep.) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 4, 2005.

Dated: March 4, 2005

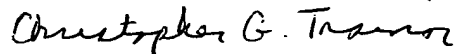

Maureen E. Bitz

[] Please charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 in the amount of \$_____. Two (2) copies of this sheet are enclosed.

[] A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed.

[X] Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No.21-0550 therefor. TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.

Respectfully submitted,



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Appl. No. 10/037,977
Amdt. Dated: March 4,, 2005
Reply to Office Action of January 5, 2005



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**Expedited Procedure
Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Group Art Unit 3731**

**PATENT
DOCKET NO. 1273 CIPCONFWCCON 3
(203-589CIPCONFWCCONIII)**

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APPLICANT: David Nicholas, et al. **EXAMINER:** Sarah K Webb
SERIAL NO.: 10/037,977 **ART UNIT:** 3731
FILED: November 9, 2001 **DATED:** March 4, 2005
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 6, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

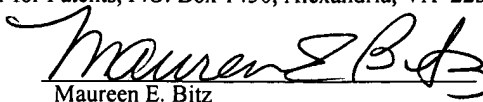
Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.

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Maureen E. Bitz